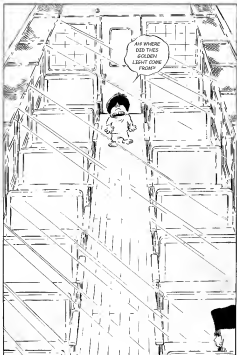


"AND THE TIME WILL COME WHEN  
THEY'LL SEE A STRANGER IN THE  
DARKNESS OF A BRIGHT STAR,  
SHINING GOLDEN RAYS, AND THEY'LL  
BE BLINDED BY THE LIGHT IN HER, SO  
MUCH THAT THE LIGHT OF THEIR  
OWN STAR WILL FADE FROM THEIR  
EYES AS ENVOY RISES FROM THE  
BOTTOM OF THEIR HEADS." - FROM  
THE SPACE BIBLE, ARTICLE #779





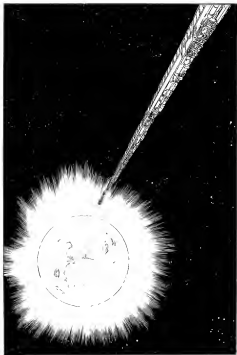
## STOP 42

# THE PLATED CITY'S WITCH



THIS PLANET IS  
CALLED PLATED,  
TETSUROU

IT'S THIS  
PLANET  
THAT'S  
SHINING?!





EVERYTHING ON  
THAT WORLD IS  
GOLD, TETSU-KUN!



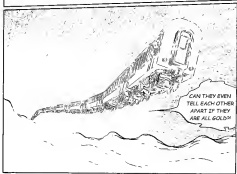
I CAN'T MAKE  
A THING OUT  
DUE TO ITS  
BRILLIANCE!



NOT ONLY  
OBJECTS,  
BUT PEOPLE  
AS WELL.



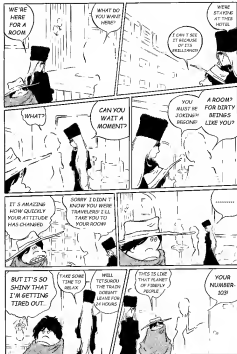
THE  
PEOPLE,  
ALSO?



CAN THEY EVEN  
TELL EACH OTHER  
APART IF THEY  
ARE ALL GOLDEN?



EVERYTHING  
SPARKLES WITH  
GOLD, AND EVEN  
THE GOLDEN SUN  
IS SHINING! IT'S  
ABSOLUTELY  
UNBEARABLE!



WE'RE  
HERE  
FOR A  
ROOM

WHAT DO  
YOU WANT  
HERE?

I CAN'T SEE  
IT BECAUSE  
OF THE  
FELLSHIP

WE'RE  
STAYING  
AT THIS  
HOTEL

WHAT?

CAN YOU  
WAIT A  
MOMENT?

YOU  
MUST BE  
JOKING  
BECAUSE

A ROOM?  
FOR DIRTY  
BEINGS  
LIKE YOU?

IT'S AMAZING  
HOW QUICKLY  
YOUR ATTITUDE  
HAS CHANGED

SORRY I DIDN'T  
KNOW YOU WERE  
TRAVELERS! I'LL  
TAKE YOU TO  
YOUR ROOM!

.....

BUT IT'S SO  
SHINY THAT  
I'M GETTING  
TIRED OUT.

TAKE SOME  
TIME TO  
RELAX

WELL  
TODAY  
THE TRAIN  
DON'T LEAVE FOR  
24 HOURS

THIS IS LIKE  
THAT PLANET  
OF FIREFLY  
PEOPLE

YOUR  
NUMBER-  
3039





A PARCEL  
FOR ME?



THERE WAS A  
BOLD FLASH  
AND THEN  
EVERYTHING  
TURNED  
BLACK!



WHAT'S  
WRONG,  
TETSUROU?



WAIT!



OH! MY  
TRUNK IS  
GONE!



WAIT,  
TETSUROU!!!



IT'S MY FAULT,  
MAEEL! THIS  
ONLY HAPPENED  
BECAUSE I OPENED  
THE DOOR!







G-GOLD  
PLATING?



BECAUSE NO  
ONE LOOKS  
DOWN HERE!

THERE IS NO  
GOLD PLATING  
IN THE  
SEWERS...



YES  
AND SO  
WHAT?

SO ALL OF THE  
GOLD ON THIS  
PLANET IS  
JUST FOR  
APPEARANCE!



I'LL SELL YOUR  
TICKETS, AND  
EVERYTHING ELSE IN  
THIS TRUNK TO  
COVER THE PRICE OF  
GOLD PLATING!



IF YOU  
UNDERSTAND,  
THEN GET OUT  
OF HERE!



THE ONLY PEOPLE  
WITHOUT GOLD  
PLATING ARE THE  
POOR AND TRAVELERS!

WHAT IS  
IT FOR?



OF COURSE!  
DO YOU WANT  
IT, ALSO?

THERE'S A  
PLACE HERE  
TO GET GOLD  
PLATING?







YOU SHOULD  
HAVE TAKEN MY  
OFFER TO LEAVE!

THAT'S WHAT  
YOU GET FOR  
OBSTRUCTING  
MY PREDICT!



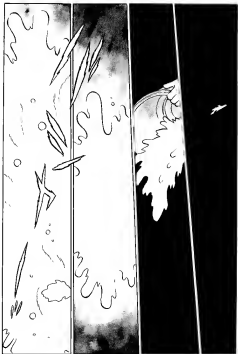
NOW, I  
WILL END  
YOUR LIFE!

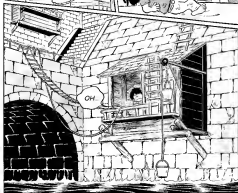


STOP, FOYER  
LOCKE! YOU  
MUST NOT  
DO THAT!!!

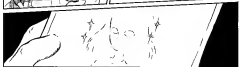
SILENCE!  
GO TO HELL!  
I WILL DO  
THIS!!!























ATTENTION  
ATTENTION  
ASSEMBLE AT  
ENTRANCE ROSS  
ON BURRELL  
STREET  
ACCORDING  
TO THE PLAN



SHUT UP!!!  
I DON'T GIVE  
A DAMN!!!

HEN THEY  
CALLED US  
TO THE  
GATHERING  
PLACE!



IT LOOKS  
LIKE IT

ISNT THIS A  
SIGN? THE AIR IS  
PUSHED OUT BY  
WATER AND  
WIND FORMER?



OUTSIDE  
THE SKY  
PATROL IS  
WAITING  
FOR US

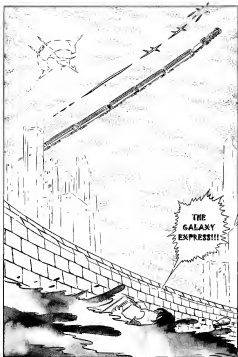
GET OUT  
QUICKLY!

WATER IS  
COMING!!!

MAZEL'S  
TRUNK!

BURRY!!!  
THERE'S  
ANOTHER  
TUNNEL!  
100 METERS  
AHEAD!





THE  
GALAXY  
EXPRESS!!!



.....



EAT UP IT'S  
DELICIOUS  
AND TOP  
QUALITY



THE TRAIN HAS  
LEFT! DO YOU NOT  
UNDERSTAND?  
THE GALAXY  
EXPRESS LEFT  
WITHOUT ME!



WHAT? IS PLATED  
FOOD DESTASTEFUL?  
NOTHING CAN BE  
DONE, IT'S ALL THAT  
IS PRODUCED



OH, I'M NOT GOING  
TO GET TIRED OF  
PICKING YOU  
ANYTIME SOON!!!



YOU ASK YOU STOLE  
MARTEL'S TRUNK, MY  
TICKET, AND NOW  
SAY "IT CAN'T BE  
HELPED?"



IF CAN'T BE HELPED SOON,  
THIS PLANET WILL CHANGE.  
YOU WILL LIVE HERE WITH  
US... WITH SHELTER AND  
WITHOUT PLATING



~~~~~



MORONI!  
IMOTO!  
BUMBAAAA!!!



NO ONE  
CAME...



WHY DON'T  
YOU BLOCK  
ME? YOU'RE  
A JAIL,  
RIGHT?



NO ONE HAS  
BEEN SENDING  
NOTIFICATIONS



TO START A  
REVOLUTION  
AND GO AWAY  
WITH THE  
WORLD OF GOLD

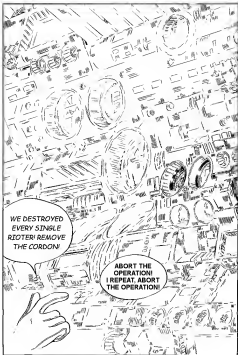
YEAH,  
IT'S THE  
MEETING  
SPOT FOR  
THE WORLD



HMM...  
WELL...



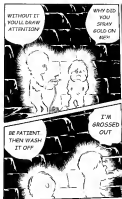
WHAT DO  
WE DO IF  
THEY ALL  
DEED?

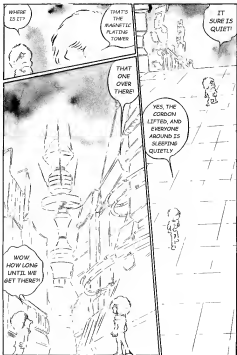


WE DESTROYED  
EVERY SINGLE  
RIOTER! REMOVE  
THE CORDON!

ABORT THE  
OPERATION!  
I REPEAT, ABORT  
THE OPERATION!







WHERE  
IS IT?

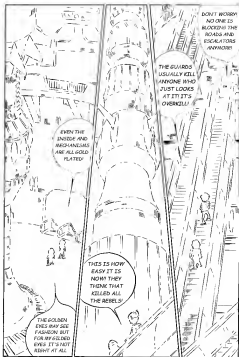
THAT'S  
THE  
MAGNETIC  
PLATING  
TOWER

IT  
SURE IS  
QUIET!

THAT  
ONE  
OVER  
THERE!

YES, THE  
CORDON  
LIFTED, AND  
EVERYONE  
AROUND IS  
SLEEPING  
QUIETLY

WOW  
HOW LONG  
UNTIL WE  
GET THERE?



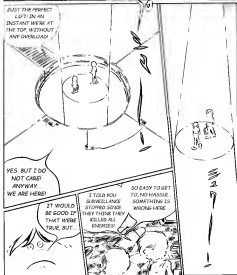
DON'T WORRY  
NO ONE IS  
BLOCKING THE  
ROADS AND  
ESCALATORS  
ANYMORE!

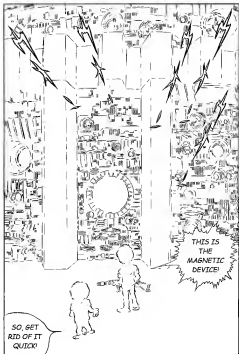
THE GUARDS  
USUALLY KILL  
ANYONE WHO  
JUST LOOKS  
AT IT IT'S  
OVERKILL!

EVEN THE  
INSIDE AND  
MECHANISMS  
ARE ALL GOLD  
PLATED!

THIS IS NOW  
EASY IT IS  
NOW! THEY  
THINK THAT  
KILLED ALL  
THE REBELS!

THE GOLDEN  
EYES MAY SEE  
FASHION BUT  
FOR MY GOLDEN  
EYES IT'S NOT  
RIGHT AT ALL







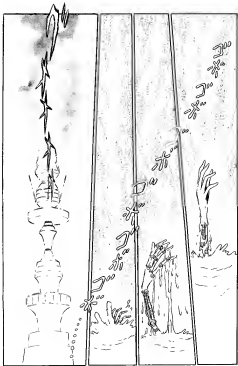
FOYER  
LOCKE!  
RAISE YOUR  
LEGS!



YOU?!



AAAAAH!!!





OUR GOLD  
DUSTING  
NOW!

IT'S ONLY  
GOLD-  
DUST  
SPRAYED  
ON US  
IDIOTS!

LOOK!

BUT  
WHAT  
HAPPENS  
NOW?

HURRY  
NOW THE  
GOLD  
PLAYING  
IS  
FADING!







I UNDERSTAND  
HIS FEELINGS.

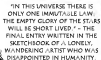


HIS MOTHER  
DIED IN FRONT  
OF HER. JUST LIKE  
MINE.



NOW THAT THE PEOPLE OF  
PLATED WILL BE SEEING EACH  
OTHER AS THEY ARE THEIR  
WORLD WILL CHANGE.  
UNDOUBTEDLY, POWER LOCKE  
WILL BE IN GOOD COMPANY.

HE'LL BE  
FINE.



"IN THIS UNIVERSE THERE IS  
ONLY ONE IMMUTABLE LAW:  
THE EMPTY GLORY OF THE STARS  
WILL BE SHORT LIVED." - THE  
FINAL ENTRY WRITTEN IN THE  
SKETCHBOOK OF A LONELY,  
WANDERING ARTIST WHO WAS  
DISAPPOINTED IN HUMANITY.